REMARKS

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 24-32 are now pending. Claims 24-32 have been added in place of Claims 13-23, which have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner rejected Claims 13 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kenner, U.S. 5,956,716 (Kenner). The Applicants traverse as follows.

Kenner discloses a system and method for delivery of video data over a computer network. The Kenner video clip retrieval system is a distributed computer system or network whereby video clips and text information, stored locally and at a remote location, can be requested and viewed at a user's multi-media terminal. In a preferred embodiment, a user builds a data query at a user terminal 14 from a text database. For example, in a real estate application, the user specifies selected property criteria. Once constructed, the query is transmitted to a primary index manager (PIM) via a local search and retrieval unit (SRU). The PIM uses a regional identifier to identify which remote index managers contain requested video segments. The PIM subsequently downloads a list of all available video clips to the user's terminal, indicating which video clips are immediately

available by virtue of the fact that a current copy of the video segment is stored at the local SRU.

Kenner also discloses an embodiment in which the PIM checks the user's subscription rights in a user database maintained by the PIM. Then, if authorized and necessary, the PIM initiates a data sequencing interface process to download a desired clip to the user's terminal. The PIM, having identified the clip corresponding to the video identifier in its clip database, passes information to the DSI regarding which extended SRUs have the clip. The DSI oversees initiating the transfer process ensuring that data is sent from the appropriate extended SRU through the interface to the user's terminal. Accordingly, the PIM exercises a managerial function.

Before the message is communicated to the PIM, the local SRU checks its own storage to see whether requested video clips are available locally. If some of the video clips are local, the local SRU forwards the request to the PIM so that the PIM may determine the specific video clip usage. The PIM determines the extended SRU where the audio-visual data is stored and passes this information to the DSI. The DSI then collects the video clips and downloads to the user's terminal.

In the Kenner system, a user terminal sends information regarding a video clip to the local SRU and the local SRU searches its own storage. If the local SRU finds the required video clip, the local SRU sends the video clip to the terminal. If not, the PIM processes the request and the DSI works to download the video clip to the user terminal. The PIM is involved in the search only when the local SRU does not have the required video clip. Once the user terminal outputs the request, the user terminal cannot obtain any information before the terminal receives the video clip.

Turning to the new claims, the terminal sends a request including the first identifier to the controller. The controller returns the information for accessing the requested video data in one of the video servers to the terminal. For example, the information may be a URL. The terminal accesses the video server and further the requested video data using the returned information in order to download the requested video. The controller does not distribute the video data itself, but distributes the information for accessing the video data. The terminal obtains the information for accessing the video data before downloading the video data. Thus, this procedure works well with current web page design.

As claimed in Claim 24, the controller includes a video

server information table. This table includes a terminal identifier identifying a terminal and a video server identifier of the video server having the video data to be distributed to the terminal linked with each other. Thus, if the video server that is closest to the requesting terminal is registered in the video server information table with a correspondence to the terminal, the controller can provide the information for accessing the video data with the shortest download time. Such a table also may provide the video server with certain flexibilities regarding distance, load distribution, and contractual issues. Kenner does not show such a video server information table.

Method Claim 34 includes a step of preparing, in a web server, a video data information table including a first video data identifier for uniquely identifying video data, a video server identifier, and a second video data identifier, linked with one another. Claim 34 further includes a step of preparing, in the web server, a video server information table including a terminal identifier identifying a terminal and the video server identifier of the video server having the video data to be distributed to the terminal, linked with each other. Then, according to the step of sending a video data request including the first video data identifier from the

terminal to the web server, the method obtains, in the web server, the video server identifier corresponding to the terminal identifier of the terminal originating the video data request from the video server information table, and extracts the second video data identifier from the video data information table using the obtained video server identifier and the first video identifier in the video data request, to send the video server identifier and the second video identifier to the terminal originating the video data request. Therefore, the method can access, by the terminal originating the video data request, the video server with the received video server identifier, and obtain the video data from the video server using the received second video identifier for reproduction. None of these tabular features are disclosed or suggested by Kenner.

In view of the foregoing new claims and remarks, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. Stanger
Registration No. 32,846

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1120
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